

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

7:30pm

Conference Room B, LSRHS

Present

Elena Kleifges, Chair; Kevin Matthews, Vice-Chair; Radha Gargeya; Nancy Marshall; Patty Mostue; Gerald Quirk.

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance and Operations; Caroline Singler, TA; Vicky Caburian and Susan Shields, Wellness Department; Caitlyn Carter, Student Senate Representative; Eleanor Burke, Associate Principal; Nicole Gray, Lucy Bergeron, Julie and Elizabeth Concannon, Anjuli Das, LS Environmental Club.

Call to Order

Elena Kleifges called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes for March 28, 2017 was tabled until the April 25th meeting.

Presentation

The LS Environmental Club, introduced by advisor and Associate Principal Eleanor Burke, presented to the LS School Committee its current efforts to encourage the towns of Lincoln and Sudbury to ban the use of plastic bags and single-use plastic bottles. They presented a short video clip illustrating the impact of plastic bags and single use plastic bottles on the planet. The club members have found that education is the most important step in changing behaviors but underscoring this effort with town bylaws is important.

Susan Shields, Department Coordinator for the Wellness Department, and Vicky Caburian, Wellness Teacher, report to the LS School Committee regarding the Wellness curriculum, an integrated, holistic health and physical education program with an experiential focus. The goal is to educate students, build positive relationships, provide appropriate challenge and support and to offer a variety of experiences. Wellness concepts are integrated into every course: become an expert on yourself; understand that you are not alone in the world and that you impact others and others impact you; the world is constantly changing and so are you; and finally, practice self-responsibility and self-acceptance.

A total of 12 credits in Wellness are required for graduation from LS: 6 credits from required courses and 6 credits from elective courses. Wellness courses of every type seek to augment

students' social-emotional learning by teaching self-management, self-awareness, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social awareness.

The Wellness Department curriculum is remarkably comprehensive. The Health Issues classes focus on managing stress and increasing resiliency as well as the effect that physical activity, sleep, nutrition, and mindfulness have on a person's well-being. Guest speakers include Mr. Ian Spencer of the Lincoln Police Department who addresses internet safety and issues of consent. TED talks are offered on dating and relationships. Information on the opioid crisis, recognizing the signs of drug overdose, the safety issues surrounding texting and driving are all part of the regular wellness curriculum. The LS Wellness program is a model for other wellness departments across the state and the LS health education program remains on the cutting edge of the field.

Vicky Caburian reported on the Wellness Policy Council whose mission is to provide a comprehensive learning environment for students, support proper dietary habits contributing to student health, and to provide opportunities to engage in physical activity.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

The LS Jazz Fest was held on March 30th in the LS Auditorium with music by the LS Band, two LS Jazz Combos, and the Lincoln Jazz Band.

The A Capellapalooza was held on March 31st. A number of LS Acapella alumni participated in the event with their college acapella groups.

On April 1st, the Chinese Folk Art Workshop performed in the LS Auditorium with students Vivienne and Katelyn Feng participating. Ticket sales will benefit the LS Memorial School in Cambodia.

The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers has recently announced the 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Medalists. Of the more than 330,000 works for art and writing submitted, only 2,740 medals were awarded at the national level! LS student Maddison Manente ('17) has been awarded a gold medal for the print "Sunlight Ahead". Congratulations to Maddison!

The 2017 Atkinson Scholars are: Meredith Ackley, Sammi Chen, Megan Chunias, Rebecca Cohen, Neandra Fernandes, Joe Gilberto, Stephen Kurtz, Daniel Parangi, Jack Parker, Deven Pathak, Melody Phu, Mahek ramini, Brenna Sherrer, Emma Silva, and Olivia Silva.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Brett Michael Donald Kachura, a Junior in East House, who came to LS as a 9th grader from Texas.

The LS METCO program's One Love music series will celebrate the METCO program and the culture and traditions of our Latin students through the music of Boston's Combo Sabroso. The performance will be April 13th from 12:36 to 2:40pm. Steve Desrosiers has organized this event.

Bruce Millet, Buildings and Grounds, will be featured in a photographic exhibit at the Gallery Seven in Maynard beginning April 11th. Notice of the exhibit was published in *Art New England*, March 2017.

Voices is a student-curated art show inspired by Project LS, which will remain on view in the AB connector throughout this week. The display features more than 30 pieces of student art work in a variety of styles and subject matters. Anna Cass has invited students to make and share art reflecting on these topics: why diversity at LS is important, what diversity means to them, their identity, why they make art, and how art can be used as a form of expression. Please take a moment to view and “listen” to the voices that the students have shared. Participating student artists: Mei Asada, Ally Barth, Iris Bennett, Noah Berger, Anna Cass, Lauren Cole, Tara Christian, Lily Elkind, Elena Fortune, Rohini Guin, Michelle Haley, Darcy Howell, Shea Justice, Mira Kharbanda, Stephen Kurtz, Lena Leavitt, Sonia Litovchick, Lucy Louis Lee, Maddison Manente, Elliot McCauley, Trina Stewart Charles Sykes, Anchita Thakuri, Ethan Weisman, Katie Whalen and Rachel Wiesler.

NBC/NECN interviewed the LS Environmental Club regarding proposing the bag and bottle ban to the Town Meetings of both Lincoln and Sudbury.

Student Representative Report

Caitlin Carter reported that the Staff Appreciation Breakfast went well. The Student Senate representatives also placed Thank-you Notes in Teacher mailboxes during that week.

Teachers' Association Report

Caroline Singler thanked the Student Senate for the Teacher Appreciation breakfast held on March 31, 2017. Student art work displayed during the Student Voices week of Project LS were impressive. Ms. Singler thanked the Clinical Counseling Department for the support the continually offer to support students and staff throughout the year. Course Request paperwork was due on April 3rd. Teachers have been involved in recommending courses for students for the coming year.

Chairman's Report

Elena Kleifges announced that the LS School Committee had unanimously approved Bella Wong's contract as Superintendent for the next 3 years. The press release is copied below:

“The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School Committee today announced that it has unanimously approved an extension of the employment contract for the District’s Superintendent/Principal, Bella Wong, through June 30, 2020.

“The School Committee is grateful for Bella’s many contributions to Lincoln-Sudbury over the four years in which she has served as Superintendent/Principal,” said Elena Kleifges, Chair of the Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee. “Her compelling vision for 21st Century education and the promotion of equity and excellence for all students have become part of the fabric of the high school, and the towns of Lincoln and Sudbury have been the beneficiaries of Bella’s strong financial and operational management during a challenging period. We look forward to her continued contributions over the next three years.”

“I am excited to continue at Lincoln-Sudbury and advance our initiatives designed to stimulate the widest range of students possible and to ensure our students are developing skills that will help them in the 21st Century,” said Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District. “A great deal has been accomplished over the last four years thanks to the support of the School Committee, administrative team, faculty and staff, and the community at large, and I look forward to accomplishing even more in the three years ahead.”

Ms. Wong has served as Superintendent/Principal of the District since July 1, 2013 and was a science teacher and department coordinator at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School from 1991 to 1998. Prior to returning to Lincoln-Sudbury in 2013, she was Assistant Superintendent, and later Superintendent, of the Wellesley Public Schools. Ms. Wong holds a Bachelor’s degree in Biology from Harvard University, conducted graduate study in Molecular Biology at Stanford University, earned a law degree at the University of California, Davis, and holds a Master’s degree in Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Liaison Reports

There were no Liaison Reports.

Superintendent/Principal’s Report

Bella Wong reported the unexpected death of 11th grade student Brett Michael Kachura. She expressed gratitude for the efforts of the Counseling Department and staff members.

The last day of School will be Wednesday, June 21st.

Director of Finance and Operations’ Report

Sherry Kersey had nothing to report.

Information & Discussion

There was no information nor discussion.

Action Items.

Warrants and payroll were signed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of Events

3rd Quarter ends	April 4, 2017
FELS Talk	April 5, 2017
Café Cabaret	April 7, 2017
Dr. Jaffer, Environmentalist	April 13, 2017
METCO One Love Concert	April 13, 2017
Good Friday	April 14, 2017
Patriots Day	April 17, 2017
Spring Recess	April 18-21, 2017
LS School Committee	April 25, 2017

Adjourn

Gerald Quirk moved to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Marshall seconded the motion, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale